UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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MANELLI DENISON & SELTER PLLC
7th Floor
2000 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036-3307

EXAMINER
BATES, KEVIN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE **3** MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _13 December 2004_.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-68_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-68_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment

This Office Action is in response to a communication made on December 13,

2004.

Claims 1-68 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 – 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Helferich (6636733).

Regarding claim 1, Helferich discloses a method of providing electronic event

notification to a communications device (Column 4, lines 11 – 14), comprising:

associating a first electronic event message with a first phone number (Column 4, lines

8 – 10) such that information about said first electronic event message is provided when

a communications device calls said first phone number (Column 5, lines 1 – 9); sending

said first phone number to said communications device (Column 4, lines 23 – 25); and

providing information about said first electronic event message when said

communications device calls said first phone number (Column 5, lines 1 – 9).

Regarding claim 2, Helferich discloses disassociating said first phone number

from said first electronic event message once said communications device calls said

first phone number (Column 4, lines 54 – 56).

Regarding claim 3, Helferich discloses associating said first phone number with a

second electronic event message after said information about said first electronic event

message is provided (Column 4, lines 54 – 56; Column 5, lines 4 – 6).

Regarding claim 4, Helferich discloses obtaining a communications device

identifier when said communications device dials said first phone number; and using

said communications device identifier to identify said first electronic message (Column

3, lines 50 – 53).

Regarding claim 5, Helferich discloses associating said communications device

with an entity (Column 3, lines 50 – 53).

Regarding claim 6, Helferich discloses receiving a second electronic event

message intended for said entity (Column 8, line 63 – Column 9, line 2); associating

said second electronic event message with a second phone number such that

information about said second electronic event message is provided when said

communications device calls said second phone number; sending said second phone

number to said communications device; and providing information about said second

electronic event message when said communications device calls said second phone

number (Column 7, lines 28 – 31).

Regarding claim 7, Helferich discloses associating a second communications

device with a second entity; receiving a second electronic event message intended for

said second entity; associating said second electronic event message with said first

phone number such that said information about said second electronic event message

is provided when said second communications device calls said first phone number;

sending said first phone number to said second communications device (Column 4,

lines 4 – 9); and providing information about said second electronic event message

when said second communications device calls said first phone number (Column 7,

lines 5 – 21).

Regarding claim 8, Helferich discloses obtaining a second communications

device identifier when said second communications device dials said first phone

number; and using said second communications device identifier to identify said second

electronic message (Column 7, lines 5 – 21).

Regarding claim 9, Helferich discloses a method of providing an event

notification, comprising: receiving an electronic notification of an event (Column 4, lines

2 – 7); associating said received electronic notification with at least one phone number

(Column 4, lines 8 – 10); generating a message that contains said associated phone

number (Column 4, line 11 – 14); and transmitting said message to a communications

device (Column 4, 23 – 25).

Regarding claim 10, Helferich discloses responding to a call to said associated

phone number to provide access to said event (Column 4, lines 32 – 44).

Regarding claim 11, Helferich discloses a method of providing an event

notification, comprising: associating at least one claim check with an event (Column 4,

lines 8 – 10); associating at least one communication device identifier with said event

(Column 3, lines 50 – 53); and generating a message for a communications device, said message containing said associated claim check (Column 4, line 11 – 14).

Regarding claim 12, Helferich discloses transmitting said message to said communications device (Column 4, lines 23 – 25).

Regarding claim 13, Helferich discloses providing information about said event to said communications device (Column 4, lines 11 – 14).

Regarding claim 14, Helferich discloses displaying said message on said communications device (Column 5, lines 21 – 27).

Regarding claim 15, Helferich discloses displaying said event on said communications device (Column 5, lines 21 – 27).

Regarding claim 16, Helferich discloses providing one or more options associated with the event (Column 5, lines 21 – 27).

Regarding claim 17, Helferich discloses receiving a user response to said event (Column 5, lines 21 – 27).

Regarding claim 18, Helferich discloses processing a user response to said event (Column 5, lines 21 – 27).

Regarding claim 19, Helferich discloses A method of providing an event notification, comprising: associating a first claim check and a first communication device identifier with a first event; and associating said first claim check and a second communications device identifier with a second event (Column 5, lines 3 - 6; Column 3, lines 50 - 53).

Regarding claim 20, Helferich discloses generating for said first communications device a first message with said first claim check (Column 4, lines 8 – 10).

Regarding claim 21, Helferich discloses that said first message comprises data about said first event (Column 4, lines 11 – 14).

Regarding claim 22, Helferich discloses generating for said second communications device a second message with said first claim check (Column 7, lines 15 – 21; Column 3, lines 50 - 53).

Regarding claim 23, Helferich discloses that said second message comprises data about said second event (Column 4, lines 11 – 14).

Regarding claim 24, Helferich discloses that said first claim check is a phone number (Column 4, lines 8 – 10).

Regarding claim 25, Helferich discloses a method of providing an event notification comprising: associating a first claim check and a first communication device identifier with a first event (Column 4, lines 2 – 10); generating for a first communications device a first message comprising said first claim check (Column 4, lines 11 – 14); associating a second claim check and said first communications device identifier with a second event; and generating for said first communications device a second message comprising said second claim check (Column 7, lines 28 – 31).

Regarding claim 26, Helferich discloses that said claim check is one of a plurality of phone numbers.

Regarding claim 27, Helferich discloses that said first communications device identifier is said phone number assigned to said first communications device (Column 3, lines 50 - 53).

Regarding claims 28, 32, and 33, Helferich discloses a notification system for a communications device comprising: a plurality of phone numbers; and a messaging module executing on a processor, said messaging module being configured to receive an electronic notification of an event and associate at least one phone number with said event, and being further configured to generate a message for a communications device, said message containing said phone number (Column 4, lines 44 – 56).

Regarding claim 29, Helferich discloses an application module that is responsive to a call to said phone number to provide access to said event (Column 4, lines 33 – 43).

Regarding claim 30, Helferich discloses that said message further comprises a summary of said event (Column 7, lines 3 – 5).

Regarding claim 31, Helferich discloses that said communications device is a wireless device (Column 3, lines 16 – 20).

Regarding claim 34, Helferich discloses that said message is transmitted to a communications device (Column 4, lines 29 – 31).

Regarding claim 35, Helferich discloses a plurality of communication device identifiers are associated with a plurality of entities (Column 3, lines 50 – 53).

Regarding claim 36, Helferich discloses that said event notification identifies at least one entity (Column 4, lines 23 – 25).

Regarding claim 37, Helferich discloses said messaging module is configured to determine an communication device identifier associated with an identified entity, and to associate said communication device identifier with said event (Column 3, lines 50 – 60).

Regarding claim 38, Helferich discloses that said messaging module obtains said communication device identifier when said communications device uses said claim check; and wherein said messaging module uses said communication device identifier to identify said event (Column 7, lines 16 – 22).

Regarding claim 39, Helferich discloses a notification system, comprising: a plurality of claim checks (Column 4, lines 44 – 56); a plurality of communication device identifiers associated with a plurality of entities (Column 3, lines 50 – 53); and a messaging module that is configured to receive electronic data about an event for an entity, to associate said electronic data about said event with at least one of said claim checks and one of said communication device identifiers associated with said entity, and to generate a message that contains said associated claim check (Column 4, lines 44 – 56).

Regarding claim 40, Helferich discloses that said messaging module is configured to provide said entity one or more action options which permit said entity to request one or more actions in response to said event (Column 7, lines 6 – 10).

Regarding claim 41, Helferich discloses said one or more actions include retrieving electronic data about said event (Column 7, lines 6 – 10).

Regarding claim 42, Helferich discloses that said one or more actions include

requesting a purchase (Column 10, line 15).

Regarding claim 43, Helferich discloses that said one or more actions include

accessing one or more other events in said notification system (Column 8, line 63 –

Column 9, line 2).

Regarding claim 44, Helferich discloses said one or more actions include

requesting a transmission of a response message (Column 7, lines 6 – 10).

Regarding claim 45, Helferich discloses an event retrieval module (Column 4,

lines 33 – 38).

Regarding claim 46, Helferich discloses that said event retrieval module reads

said event to said user (Column 5, lines 22 – 35).

Regarding claim 47, Helferich discloses that said event retrieval module displays

said event on said communications device (Column 5, lines 22 – 35).

Regarding claim 48, Helferich discloses a notification system, comprising: a

plurality of claim checks (Column 4, lines 44 – 56); a plurality of communication device

identifiers (Column 3, lines 50 – 53); and a messaging module that is configured to

receive electronic notification of a first event, to associate a first claim check and a first

communication device identifier with said first event (Column 4, lines 44 – 56), to

receive electronic notification of a second event, and to associate said first claim check

and a second communication device identifier with said second event (Column 4, lines 2

– 10; Column 5, lines 3 - 6;; Column 3, lines 50 - 53).

Regarding claim 49, Helferich discloses that said messaging module is configured to generate a first message with said first claim check (Column 4, lines 11 – 14).

Regarding claim 50, Helferich discloses that said first message comprises data about said first event (Column 4, lines 11 – 14).

Regarding claim 51, Helferich discloses that said messaging module is configured to generate a second message with said first claim check (Column 4, lines 2 – 10; Column 5, lines 3 - 6; Column 3, lines 50 - 53)

Regarding claim 52, Helferich discloses that said second message comprises data about said second event (Column 5, lines 1 – 9).

Regarding claim 53, Helferich discloses that said claim check is a phone number (Column 4, lines 6 – 10).

Regarding claim 54, Helferich discloses that said claim check is an event identifier (Column 4, lines 2 – 10).

Regarding claim 55, Helferich discloses that said first message is a short message to a wireless device (Column 4, lines 11 - 14).

Regarding claim 56, Helferich discloses that said first message is a summary message of said event (Column 4, lines 11 - 14).

Regarding claim 57, Helferich discloses that said communication device identifier is a mobile directory number (Column 3, lines 50 – 53).

Regarding claim 58, Helferich discloses that said messaging module executes on a computer server (Column 5, lines 10 – 14).

Regarding claim 59, Helferich discloses that said messaging module is part of a web site (Column 3, lines 25 – 27).

Regarding claim 60, Helferich discloses a notification system, comprising; means for storing a plurality of phone numbers (Column 4, lines 44 – 45); means for receiving an electronic notification of an event (Column 4, lines 2 – 4); means for associating at least one of said plurality of phone numbers with said event (Column 4, lines 8 – 10); means for generating a message that contains said at least one of said plurality of phone numbers (Column 4, lines 11 – 14); and means for transmitting said message to a communications device (Column 4, lines 23 – 25).

Regarding claim 61, Helferich discloses a means for responding to a call to said associated phone number to provide access to said event (Column 4, lines 57 – 61).

Regarding claim 62, Herlerich discloses a notification system, comprising: means for maintaining a plurality of claim checks (Column 4, lines 44 – 45); means for maintaining a plurality of device check identifiers (Column 3, lines 50 – 53); means for receiving an electronic notification of an event (Column 4, lines 2 – 8); means for associating at least one of said claim checks and one of said device identifiers (Column 4, lines 2 – 10) with information about said event; and means for generating a message that contains said associated claim check (Column 4, lines 11 – 14).

Regarding claim 63, Herlerich discloses means for retrieving said event (Column 4, lines 57 – 60).

Regarding claim 64, Herlerich discloses a means for offering one or more options associated with said event (Column 5, lines 24 – 40).

Regarding claim 65, Herlerich discloses a means for generating one or more responses to said event (Column 5, lines 24 – 40).

Regarding claim 66, Herlerich discloses a notification system, comprising: means for storing a plurality of claim checks (Column 4, lines 44 – 45); means for storing a plurality of communication device identifiers (Column 3, lines 50 – 53); means for receiving an electronic notification of a first event (Column 4, lines 2 – 8); means for associating a first claim check and a first communication device identifier with information about said first event (Column 4, lines 2 – 10); means for generating a message for said first event (Column 4, lines 11 – 14); means for transmitting the message to the communications device identified by the first communication device identifier (Column 4, lines 23 – 25); means for receiving an electronic notification of a second event; and means for associating a second claim check and said first communication device identifier with information about said second event (Column 8, line 63 – Column 9, line 2).

Regarding claim 67, Helferich discloses means for receiving a request to access said second event; and means for providing access to said second event (Column 4, lines 57 – 61).

Regarding claim 68, Helferich discloses a means for providing access to said second event in response to receiving said second claim check (Column 5, lines 26 – 40).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed December 13, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that the reference Helferich, discloses a system with a simple mail server, and does not disclose sending event notifications. The examiner disagrees, Helferich discloses a system that works with text, voice, and email messages, but also works with notifying users, which a notification is a network event (Column 1, lines 59 – 63).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Bates whose telephone number is (571) 272-3980. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KB

KB
February 15, 2004

HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER